

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2006
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Deb Schorr, Chair
Bob Workman, Vice Chair
Larry Hudkins
Bernie Heier
Ray Stevens

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Bruce Medcalf, County Clerk
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2006

MOTION: Stevens moved and Workman seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes dated August 24, 2006. Hudkins, Stevens, Workman, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Update on Legacy Dairy and Creamery
- B. County Connections Television Program
- C. Youth Service Center Thank Yous

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded approval of the additions to the agenda. Workman, Hudkins, Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

**3 TRAINING REGARDING EMPLOYMENT EQUAL OPPORTUNITY -
Joyce Welsch, City Affirmative Action Officer**

Joyce Welsch, City Affirmative Action Officer, gave an overview of training she is offering for county management staff (Exhibit A). She gave the Board the option of making the training optional or mandatory.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded to make participation in the training mandatory and to send a letter indicating that County Board members plan to participate in the training and encouraging participation by the other elected officials.

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, said he will coordinate mailings and materials with Welsch.

ROLL CALL: Heier, Workman, Stevens, Hudkins and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Information on the training will also be presented at the September 21, 2006 Management Team Meeting.

4 COUNTY SPECIAL PERMIT NO. 06045, HORSE TRAINING AND RIDING STABLE, SOUTHWEST CORNER OF NORTH 84TH STREET AND LITTLE SALT ROAD - Mike DeKalb, Planner

Mike DeKalb, Planner, gave an overview of County Special Permit No. 06045, a request for authority to operate a horse training, boarding and breeding facility (riding stable) on property at North 84th Street and Little Salt Road (Exhibit B). Planning staff and the Planning Commission have recommended conditional approval.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

A. Letter Regarding Denton Road Detour

The Board reviewed the letter draft (see agenda packet).

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded to authorize signature by the Chair. Workman, Stevens, Hudkins, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Stevens suggested formation of a Rural to Urban Transportation System (RUTS) Program Committee, composed of two County Board members, two City Council members, and representatives of Public Works/Utilities and County Engineering to prioritize projects and discuss how to share in funding. He said the committee could bring a plan back to the respective bodies.

Roads suggested were Yankee Hill Road, between 40th and 56th Streets; Denton Road; 1st Street; 98th Street and the East Beltway.

Heier questioned the need for a committee and suggested that discussion with the County Engineer and City Engineer be scheduled on a Tuesday, County Board of Commissioners Meeting.

Additional discussion followed, with general consensus to schedule discussion of road issues and the possibility of a roads advisory group with Don Thomas, County Engineer, and Roger Figard, City Engineer, on the September 7, 2006 Staff Meeting agenda.

B. Trabert Hall Space for Integrated Care Coordination Unit (ICCU)

Schorr said C. J. Johnson, Program Administrator for the Region V Mental Health, Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Program, is looking to bring all of his staff together and has requested a letter from the County Board indicating that, as of Summer, 2007, space for the ICCU will no longer be available in Trabert Hall. She said the notification will allow plans to locate the ICCU in Region V's building at 16th & N Street to move forward.

Schorr also reported that Cedars Youth Services is interested in locating its juvenile justice programs at Trabert Hall. Cedars has asked that the basement, first and second floor be dedicated to these programs and that the space be renovated prior to occupancy. Cedars has also asked that the space be provided without cash rent.

Heier said other agencies might be interested in the same type of arrangement.

Hudkins said the Public Building Commission (PBC) can't waive the rent but can offer a competitive rate. The renovation costs would also need to be covered. He advised against sending the letter that Region V has requested until a contract is worked out with Cedars.

C. Breakfast Meeting with Legislative Candidates and Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO)

The Board suggested that the meeting be held at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 19, 2006.

5 NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST GRANT FOR PROTECTION OF WILDERNESS PARK WETLANDS - Terry Genrich, Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Manager; Tom Malmstrom, Natural Resources Coordinator

Tom Malmstrom, Natural Resources Coordinator, requested a letter of support for a Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) Grant for restoration of Wilderness Park wetlands (eight sites). He said the grant totals \$44,100 and will be matched with \$20,000 from the City of Lincoln (\$14,000 for restoration and \$6,000 for engineering); \$37,500 from the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (NRD) (\$35,000 for restoration work and \$2,500 for engineering); \$2,500 from Friends of Wilderness Park; and \$200 from the Wachiska Audubon Society.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded to authorize the Chair to send a letter of support.

It was decided that Malmstrom will draft the letter, with review by Eagan.

ROLL CALL: Stevens, Heier, Workman, Hudkins and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

6 FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007 MICROCOMPUTER BUDGET - Dave Kroecker, Budget and Fiscal Officer; Doug Thomas, Information Services Director; Ken Kuszak, Microcomputer/Network Support Coordinator

The Board reviewed P.C. Requests for FY07 (see agenda packet) and Inventory Summary (Exhibit C).

Doug Thomas, Information Services Director, noted that the Public Defender would like to embark on a three year upgrade of all office computers.

Board members indicated that they are more comfortable with a five year replacement schedule.

Stevens said the Public Defender has stated, as part of his rationale, that office computers lack DVD players and CD burners, which are frequently needed for case preparation, and he suggested that it might be more cost effective to purchase those components.

Thomas said the Sheriff's Office needs additional anti-virus software and estimated the cost at \$200.

Bill Jarrett, Chief Deputy Sheriff, appeared and he said if the Board will approve the request, he will find the funds in department's budget.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded to approve the PC requests for Fiscal Year 2006-2007, with the exception of the request from the Public Defender which will be held for additional information. Heier, Workman, Stevens, Hudkins and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Steve Rowoldt, Chief Probation Officer in Adult Probation, appeared and said the request he submitted is for computers for the Day Reporting Center (\$40,877.18). He said Information Services will purchase the equipment and the State will provide reimbursement.

MOTION: Heier moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the request, plus any additional costs for network security. Hudkins, Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Thomas also distributed several articles comparing CRT and LCD monitors (Exhibit D).

Ken Kuszak, Microcomputer/Network Support Coordinator, said his supplier has indicated that CRT's won't be offered much longer. He added that CRT's and LCD's are now comparable in price.

Thomas recommended that the County make LCD's the standard for replacements.

7 RETIREMENT INCENTIVES - Don Taute, Personnel Director

Discussion took place with Don Taute, Personnel Director, on whether to offer retirement incentives to unclassified, unrepresented employees.

Board consensus was to wait and re-evaluate possible cost benefits in one year.

The Chair asked that discussion of this issue also be scheduled on a Management Team agenda.

8 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Letter Regarding Denton Road Detour
- B. Trabert Hall Space for Integrated Care Coordination Unit (ICCU)
- C. Breakfast Meeting with Legislative Candidates and Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO)

Items A, B & C were moved forward on the agenda.

D. Address Changes for Unincorporated Villages

The Board reviewed a list of proposed changes (see agenda packet).

Eagan recommended exclusion of Cheney, as it will likely be annexed by the City of Lincoln.

MOTION: Workman moved and Hudkins seconded to send a letter to the unincorporated villages notifying them of address changes, excluding Cheney and eliminating the option to rename roads. Heier, Workman, Hudkins, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

E. Nebraska Liquor Control Commission Hearing on Ron's Pub (September 13, 2006)

There was general consensus that no testimony is necessary (information has already been submitted to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission).

F. Letter from Cedars Youth Services Regarding Trabert Hall Space

See Item 8B.

G. Letter of Invite to Senators (Fall Retreat, October 5, 2006)

Informational only.

H. Annual Meeting with Villages

Board consensus was to hold the meeting on Tuesday, November 28, 2006. Roundtable discussion was suggested, in addition to discussion of legislative issues.

I. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Legislative Conference (October 5, 2006)

Workman and Hudkins indicated plans to attend.

J. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Annual Meeting (December 5-7, 2006)

Workman and Hudkins indicated plans to attend.

It was suggested that the Board hold a Staff Meeting on Tuesday, December 5, 2006, if needed.

K. Disproportionate Share Hospitals

Eagan reported on a meeting held with representatives of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to discuss disproportionate share hospitals. The State would like to use the County's General Assistance (GA) to draw down more federal dollars. The County may be able to leverage Medicaid rates for jail inmates in exchange.

There was general consensus to explore the issue further.

9 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. Jail Steering Committee - Stevens

Stevens said four potential sites were run through a selection criteria grid and scored. One is owned by the City, one is owned by the State and two are privately owned. He said the committee supports a 20 to 35 acre site and construction of a single-level building with 500 plus beds, with room for future expansion. The existing jail would be re-used, not expanded.

Hudkins suggested that consideration be given to the additional costs that will be incurred if the facility is not able to hook on to District Energy.

B. Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA) Monthly Meeting - Hudkins, Heier

No report.

C. Downtown Lincoln Association (DLA) - Stevens

Stevens said discussion focused on objectives.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

A. Update on Legacy Dairy and Creamery

Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, reported that the Legacy Dairy and Creamery has filed for a building permit.

B. County Connections Television Program

Thorpe said the next program will be an annual report.

C. Youth Service Center Thank Yous

Heier asked the Board for suggestions on how to appropriately thank businesses and individuals for large donations, such as the greenhouse that was donated to the Youth Service Center.

Schorr suggested recognition at a Tuesday, County Board of Commissioners Meeting.

Stevens said the same concept could apply to those that have donated to Drug Court.

The need for some type of memento that could be presented was discussed. Schorr agreed to follow-up.

10 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Heier moved and Hudkins seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 a.m. Stevens, Workman, Heier, Hudkins and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Bruce Medcalf
Lancaster County Clerk